

change caused by a change in the capacitance of the first subordinate or second subordinate capacitor-equivalent circuit, generated according to the extent of approximation of the human body.

**46.** A user input apparatus for receiving data or a command input by the user to a computer, characterized by comprising:

user input means for the user to input data or a command by using the user's human body; and

use-form detection means for detecting a form in which the user uses the user input means by the user's human body, and,

characterized in that

the user input means is a mouse;

the use-form detection means comprises:

a transmission electrode disposed almost at one end of the mouse;

a transmitter for supplying alternating current for transmission to the transmission electrode;

a receiving electrode disposed almost at the other end of the mouse; and

a receiver for receiving alternating current flowing through the receiving electrode;

a first capacitor-equivalent circuit equivalent to a capacitor is formed between the transmission electrode and the receiving electrode;

a second capacitor-equivalent circuit is formed in parallel to the first capacitor-equivalent circuit when a human body approaches the upper surface of the mouse; and

it is determined whether the user is using the mouse, according to a change in alternating current flowing through the first capacitor-equivalent circuit, the change caused by a change in the capacitance of the second capacitor-equivalent circuit, generated according to the extent of approximation of the human body.

**47.** A user input apparatus for receiving data or a command input by the user to a computer, characterized by comprising:

user input means for the user to input data or a command by using the user's human body; and

use-form detection means for detecting a form in which the user uses the user input means by the user's human body, and,

characterized in that

the use-form detection means comprises:

modulation means for modulating the original signal to generate an output signal;

transmission means formed of a first electrically conductive member and disposed on the user input means so as to be exposed to the outside to be able to transmit the output signal;

receiving means formed of a second electrically conductive member and disposed on an external unit so as to be exposed to the outside to be able to receive the output signal; and

demodulation means for demodulating the received signal, and

signal transfer between the transmission means and the receiving means is enabled when a human body contacts the first and second electrically conductive members.

**48.** A user input apparatus according to claim 47, characterized in that

the user input means is a keyboard, and the external unit is a portable telephone or another information terminal, and

the use-form detection means determines that one hand of the user is placed on the keyboard and the other hand is used to hold the information terminal, through the signal transfer between the transmission means and the receiving means.

**49.** A user input apparatus for receiving data or a command input by the user to a computer, characterized by comprising:

user input means for the user to input data or a command by using the user's human body; and

use-form detection means for detecting a form in which the user uses the user input means by the user's human body, and,

characterized in that

the use-form detection means comprises:

a plurality of line-shaped transmission electrodes;

a transmitter for supplying alternating current for transmission to each of the transmission electrodes;

a plurality of line-shaped receiving electrodes disposed so as not to contact each of the transmission electrodes; and

a receiver for receiving alternating current flowing through the receiving electrodes;

a use-form detection area where the plurality of transmission electrodes and the plurality of receiving electrodes intersect is superposed on a user input area of the user input apparatus;

a first capacitor-equivalent circuit equivalent to a capacitor is formed at each of the intersections of the transmission electrodes and the receiving electrodes;

a second capacitor-equivalent circuit is formed in parallel to the first capacitor-equivalent circuit when a human body approaches the intersection of a transmission electrode and a receiving electrode; and

the form of use in which the user uses the user input means by the user's human body is detected according to a change in alternating current flowing through the first capacitor-equivalent circuit, the change caused by a change in the capacitance of the second capacitor-equivalent circuit, generated according to the extent of approximation of the human body.

**50.** A user input apparatus for receiving data or a command input by the user to a computer, characterized by comprising: